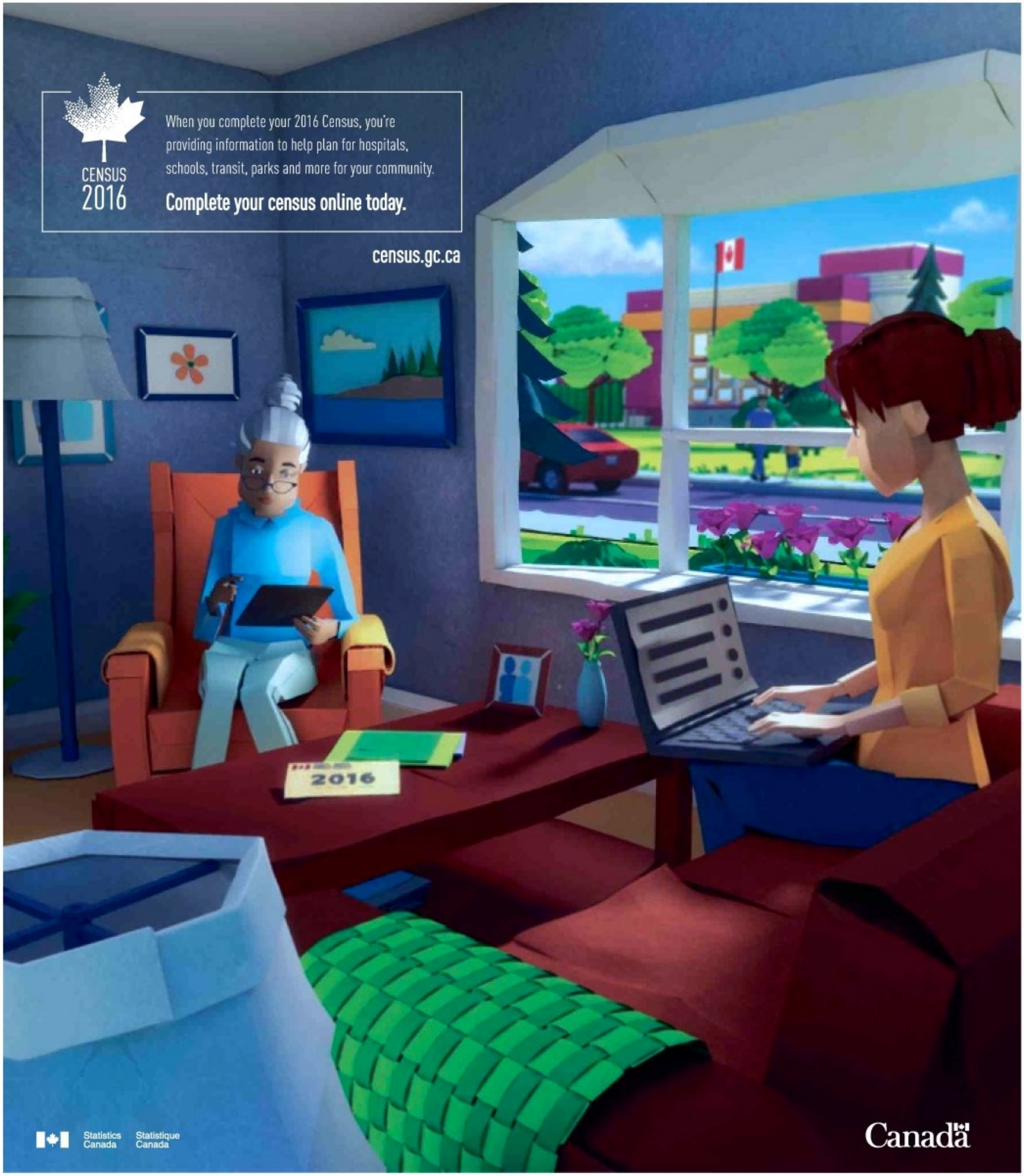
Toronto metro

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2016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GLORIA STEINEM

Documentary series examines women's struggles

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Toronto metro

FORT MCMURRAY

On losing the museum of one's life to fire

metroVIEWS

Your essential daily news | TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2016

High 29°C/Low 21°C Chance of showers

Ghomeshi avoids trial

SEXUAL ASSAULT

Second case relates to workplace allegations

The Jian Ghomeshi sexual-assault allegation that deals with a workplace incident is expected to be resolved without a trial, sources say.

Slated for a five-day trial next month, the case is instead headed back to court at 10 a.m. Wednesday, where an agreed arrangement will probably be presented to court.

One scenario being suggested by sources is that Ghomeshi, 48, will acknowledge some type of improper conduct and make an apology.

Ghomeshi, the former star of Q on CBC, was acquitted in April of four charges of sexual assault and one of choking to overcome resistance.

Those allegations related to three women who said that in the early 2000s, in a dating scenario, Ghomeshi assaulted them. The judge acquitted Ghomeshi, saying the Crown had not proved the case beyond a reasonable doubt.

The second trial involves allegations of sexual assault in a workplace scenario on Feb. 7, 2008. The allegations involve Ghomeshi simulating a sex act by pushing his groin into the woman's buttocks.

Both Ghomeshi and the woman were clothed during the alleged assault, which occurred at the CBC building in Toronto.

Trial was set for June 6.

Sources say that after much discussion between both sides it is likely to be resolved by way of a Section 810 peace bond, meaning that Ghomeshi will have no criminal record but will have to follow certain conditions, including staying away from the complainant, sources say.

Peace bonds typically last one year.

Sources say that on Wednesday at Old City Hall courthouse, Crown attorney Michael Callaghan will read out the allegations related to the charge laid by Toronto police. Following that, Ghomeshi will make a statement to court.

Sources say that Ghomeshi will express remorse over conduct related to the complainant. The woman's identity is protected by a court-imposed publication ban.

Neither Ghomeshi nor his lawyer, Marie Henein, responded to questions regarding this development in the case.

Brendan Crawley, a spokesman for the attorney general's ministry, said the ministry could not discuss the case as it is before the court.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A burned-out house and others still intact in the Abasand neighbourhood of Fort McMurray. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The new Fort McMurray

What's been lost, and spared, in an ocean of fire

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

IN FORT MCMURRAY

Metro takes you behind the headlines to the communities, bedrooms and schools lost to the inferno

- PILOT BREAKS THE RULES TO RESCUE PETS
- FIREFIGHTERS BOND ON THE FRONT LINES
- TOUR REVEALS THE MANY SAVED HOMES

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metro NEWS

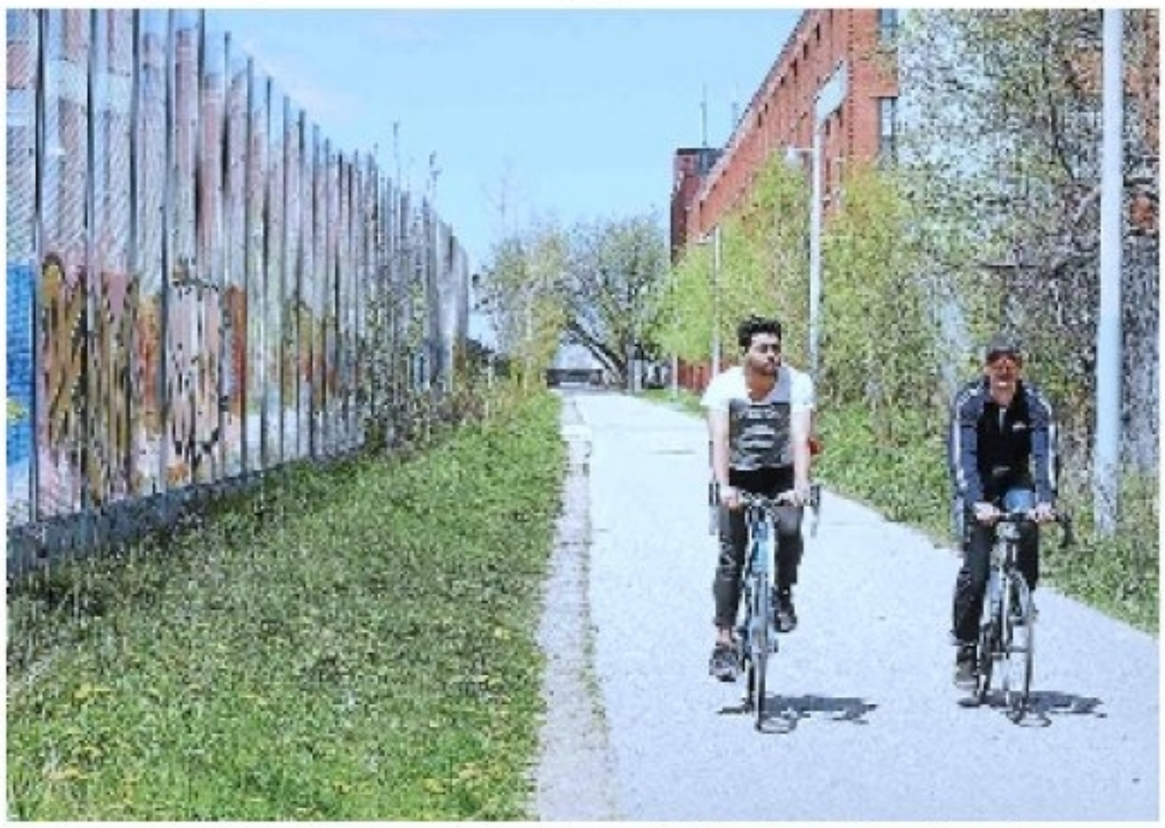
Your essential daily news

Names of people behind offshore entities found in the Panama Papers made public. **World**

Cycling plan goes big

MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT

New report recommends $153.5M in improvements



Cyclists travel along on West Toronto Railpath just north of Dundas St. W southbound to Bloor St. W. VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bike lanes could be coming to eight of Toronto's busiest streets if the city's new 10-year cycling plan pans out.

The plan, released in a city report Monday, identifies 525 km of new bike lanes, cycle tracks, trails and other routes that, if built, would create the kind of connected network Toronto's bike advocates have long pushed for.

The majority of that infrastructure, some 280 km, would be in the form of painted or physically separated bike lanes on busy streets, while 190 km of it would be cycling routes on quieter roads.

The remaining 55 km would be "sidewalk-level boulevard trails" running alongside major thoroughfares. The plan would cost an estimated $153.5 million over the next decade.

"Over a 10-year period we would roughly look at doubling the amount of cycling routes in the city," said Stephen Buckley, the city's general manager of transportation services.

He said that to date the city's planning of its bike network has been disjointed, and his goal was to "develop a full network that we could get behind."

The guiding principles are connecting existing cycling routes, expanding the network, and improving infrastructure already in place, Buckley said.

Perhaps the most striking feature is a proposal to study bike infrastructure on eight major corridors, including Bloor St./Dupont St. from Dundas St. to Sherbourne St.; Danforth Ave. from Broadview Ave. to Kingston Rd.; and Yonge St. all the way from Steeles to Front St., almost the full length of the city.

While the report noted these corridors could be good candidates for cycling routes, Buckley stressed it would take further study to conclude whether it's feasible to install bike lanes on them.

"We recognize these ones are going to be particularly complicated and complex, and all of them warrant adequate stakeholder consultation and outreach before we decide on a path forward," he said.

Other major projects include five tunnels or bridges to allow cyclists to cross the Don River, Highway 401 and a railway line, the extension of the West Toronto Railpath, and a new trail along Lake Shore Blvd. in the downtown core.

Although a host of projects is slated for the centre of the city, there is no shortage of new bikeways proposed for the suburbs, including a trail along Warden Ave. in Scarborough, and bike lanes along Sheppard East, Finch West, Kipling Ave. and Eglinton Ave. The plan also proposes dozens of smaller connecting routes in every corner of the city.

The report will be debated at the public works committee next Monday, and could go before council in June.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

525 km

Amount of new cycling infrastructure proposed in 10-year plan.

SEXUAL ASSAULT

North York women plan to reclaim park following attacks

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

Lisa Pitocco hasn't taken a stroll in Roding Park for the past several months. In fact, she's even prevented her three kids from playing there or passing through.

"Nobody is safe anymore and people have stopped coming in the park," she said, referring to a string of sexual assault incidents that have plagued the North York park in the past year.

A total of three women have been sexually assaulted there in the past 10 months, including a 50-year-old woman, who was attacked March 8.

"This used to be a jogging park, a walking park for seniors and kids, and all that is dwindling because people are afraid," Pitocco said.

But she and other women in the community aren't letting fear hold them back. They're planning a women's march in the park Tuesday evening.

"We want to get our park back, simple as that," she said, adding the green space in the neighbourhood should be open to everyone.

"We need to keep the bad people out."

Coun. Maria Augimeri said the sexual assaults have been traumatic for the community. She's working to revitalize the park and encourage people back through more programming and recreational activities.

Augimeri is also working on a motion to install surveillance cameras in the park. There are already CCTV cameras at the nearby Roding Community Centre, but she believes installing others would make people feel safer.

"Safety is not about one strategy. It's about finding a multi-pronged approach," she said.

Parks and recreation spokesperson Matthew Cutler questioned the efficacy of security cameras, and noted no other parks in the city have them. Instead, he suggested clearing bushes and providing better lighting were better safety measures.

"Cameras provide in some way a false sense of security," he said, noting assailants can hide their faces.

A series of sexual assaults have occurred in the Roding Park area. GOOGLE MAPS

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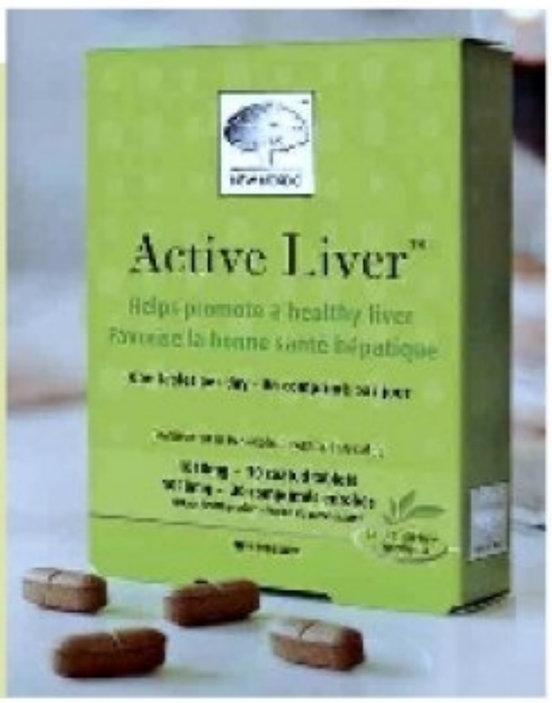

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Child care rules said to lack vision

FUNDING

Advocates say regulations need more than tweaking

Child care advocates are relieved that Ontario will allow daycares to maintain existing infant, toddler and pre-school rooms in new regulations posted Monday.

And they welcome the education ministry's plan to field-test a new option before imposing rules that could threaten centre viability, program quality and parent fees.

But the advocates worry that the province still hasn't produced an overall vision for the future of child care in Ontario.

"I'm all for having a research project and evaluating things," said Carolyn Ferns of the Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care.

"However, we need to get past the tweaking and start to deal with child care more seriously and much more broadly," she said. "The regulations don't address the issues of access, funding and affordability."

Education Minister Liz Sandals said the province has begun preliminary discussions with Ottawa on a national early learning and child care framework.

"Our new regulations mark another important milestone in the transformation of our child care and early years programs, as we continue to build a child care system that is high quality, seamless and meets the needs of parents and children," Sandals said in a statement.

The new regulations will allow centres that want more flexibility to field-test two new age groups: One for children from birth to age 2 and another for those between the ages of 2 and 5.

Currently, babies under age 18 months and toddlers to age 2½ must be cared for in separate rooms.

A broad cross-section of academic and municipal partners, along with daycare operators will help the province design and test the new option.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

About three weeks ago, someone broke into an outside display and took this sign, worth about $1,000. TORSTAR NEWS FILE

HONEST ED'S

Iconic store suffers not-so-petty thefts

As Honest Ed's prepares to close its doors, some fans of the iconic store are turning out to be not so honest.

Someone broke through an external display case and stole a small sign valued at about $75 early Saturday, said Russel Lazar, the store's general manager.

Another sign — larger and valued at about $1,000 — was stolen in a similar incident about three weeks ago.

The business is offering a $3,000 reward for information about the thefts, which comes as Honest Ed's sells off the remainder of its contents, including its recognizable hand-painted signage.

"It's a shame, because while we may not give them away we sure make them affordable," Lazar said.

The store sold close to 10,000 signs over a two-day sale last month, he said.

"It's a real compliment that people want them. They appreciate the history."

The store — which opened in 1948 at Bloor and Bathurst — will close at the end of December.

Until then, shoppers can still take a stroll down memory lane and buy a piece of the history.

Lazar has but one request: Do it honestly.

SHANE PERUSSE/FOR METRO

IN BRIEF

Driving on drugs charges soar in 2016

Toronto police say more people are getting behind the wheel while on drugs. They say 25 drivers have been charged with impaired driving due to drug use, up from 10 at this time in 2015 — an increase of 150 per cent. Meanwhile, the number of alcohol-related charges has dropped by roughly seven per cent — 431 as of last week, compared to 464 by the same time last year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ex-MPP's accuser free to talk: Wynne

Ontario's Liberals deny suggestions a woman who accused a former member of the legislature of workplace sexual harassment is prevented from speaking about it. Premier Kathleen Wynne revealed Friday that former Liberal MPP Kim Craitor was asked to resign in 2013 after workplace sexual harassment complaints. Wynne said she felt action needed to be taken after of an independent investigation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

No acclamation for Ford

Michael Ford, seeking to replace his uncle Rob Ford as Toronto city councillor for Ward 2 Etobicoke North, will soon have a challenger. Christopher Strain said he plans to run in the July 25 byelection.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cats pulled from café

ANIMALS

Society says shop policies not conducive to adoption

Shane Perusse
For Metro | Toronto

All of the cats removed from the café last week were in perfectly good health, according to the executive director of the Toronto Humane Society. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

The Toronto Humane Society has cut ties with the city's first cat café.

Barbara Steinhoff, the non-profit's executive director, said cats were removed last week over the policies at TOT Cat Café.

The café was delaying adoptions in order to maintain the number of cats, she said. Also, the business required people spend a minimum amount of money to visit the room where the cats were housed. That, Steinhoff said, "didn't offer proper opportunity for people to be motivated to adopt."

> **It's upsetting that we've given up so much.**
> Kenneth Chai

The café opened last year at College and Spadina, following the popularity of similar businesses around the world. It served as on off-site adoption spot for the Humane Society.

Kenneth Chai, the café's co-owner, has brought in new cats supplied by other rescue agencies. He declined to name them until the arrangement is finalized.

Chai refuted accusations on social media that the Humane Society cats had been mistreated in his care.

"The cats were fed twice a day, and we always limited the number of customers that could go into the cat room," he said. "It's upsetting that we've given up so much and it's a bit heartbreaking that these accusations were made." All of the cats pulled from the café last week were in good health, Steinhoff said.

Einstein catnapped

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

This kitten was stolen last week. TEAM CAT RESCUE/FACEBOOK

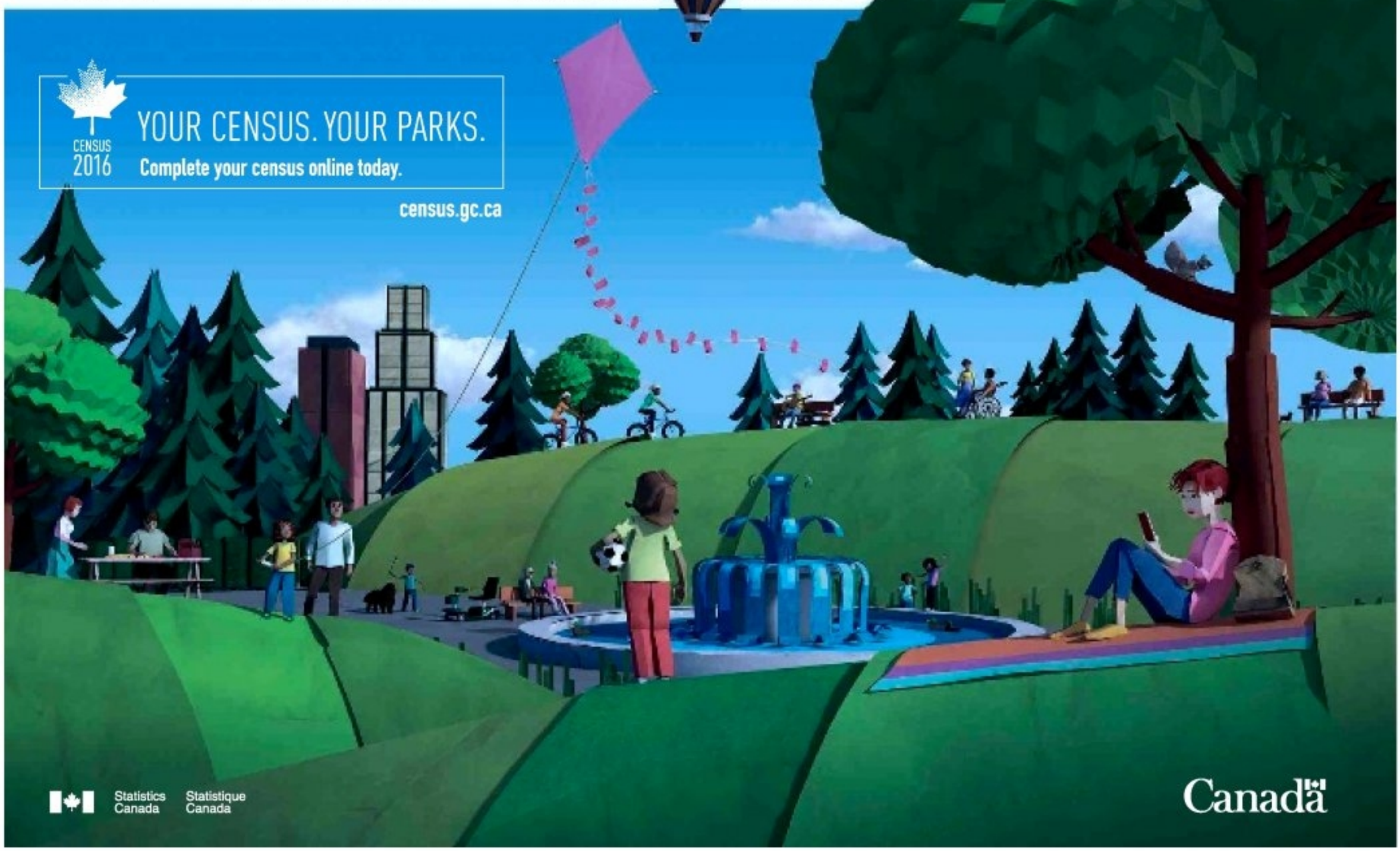
A rescue cat in North York is in need of more rescuing.

Einstein, a four-month-old kitten, was stolen from his cage at the Newtonbrook Pet Valu store last Wednesday evening.

Security footage from the incident shows a man entering the store at 5853 Yonge St. around 8:50 p.m. While a woman speaks with the staff member on duty, the man walks over to where the cats were kept, opens the cage and tucks Einstein under his coat before walking out.

Einstein had previously been found abandoned and was at the store as part of a partnership between Pet Valu and Team Cat Rescue.

"Please share and be on the lookout for anyone who just got a new kitten. Please also check Kijiji for new postings of a kitten for sale," Team Cat Rescue wrote on their Facebook page.



Gardiner park name still up in the air

INVESTIGATION

Last-minute voting may be fraud, says naming agency

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

The voting is over but we still don't know what to call the Under Gardiner.

Waterfront Toronto released a short list of names for the new park last month, and asked the public to pick their favourite.

The contest closed Monday at midnight, but concerns about fraudulent voting have prevented officials from announcing a winner.

"We noticed a flurry of last-minute voting activity as you'd expect," said Waterfront Toronto spokesman Christopher McKinnon.

"It appeared suspicious, and it possibly could have been a result of automatic voting, which is prohibited in this campaign."

Waterfront Toronto is currently investigating whether all the votes were legitimate.

McKinnon said there's no clear timeline for the verification process, but lauded the public's participation in naming the park.

"We're very pleased that thousands of people took the time to engage in this campaign," he said.

Late last week — almost halfway through the voting period — "The Bentway" was leading the way with 37 per cent of the vote. The name is a reference to the Gardiner Expressway's structure; "bents" are the concrete supports which prop the highway up.

But when the final votes were tallied, The Bentway was tied with "The Artery" at 34 per cent.

"The Canopy" and the "Gathering Place" trailed behind at 22 per cent and 12 per cent respectively.

A jury of community leaders shortlisted the four final names from more than 800 that were proposed by the public.

A total of 3,500 votes were cast in the 10-day voting span.

The winning name will be approved by city council before it's officially unveiled this summer.

The plan for the project includes 10 acres of parkland with an artistic meeting place, an open-air market, a skating rink and other amenities.

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GLIMPSE OF THE FUTURE? GALLERIA MALL MAKEOVER The aging plaza at Dufferin and Dupont Streets – maligned and beloved in equal measure by those who frequented it – was bought last year for $80 million. Following extensive consultation, the company behind the revamp, Galleria Developments, has released the first project renderings. The drawings – likely far from the final vision for the mall site – show a pedestrian promenade, a revitalized park and space for many small retailers. Consultation continues, but Galleria Developments' Joe Svec told Urban Toronto that "pedestrian-only streets" are a priority. CONTRIBUTED/GALLERIA DEVELOPMENTS

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All queries are confidential. A phone screen (which participants will not be compensated for) is required to determine eligibility.
This study has been approved by the Ryerson University Research Ethics Board

Ryerson University

5 THINGS TO EXPECT DURING QUEEN ST CONSTRUCTION

Queen Street West is getting some much-needed love between Spadina Avenue and Bathurst Street. That means five months of diverted streetcars, torn up sidewalks and all the joy roadwork can bring. Here's what you should expect:

Shane Perusse
Metro | Toronto

1 No parking

Parking meters are officially shut down. There will be no parking on this stretch of Queen St. W until the work has been completed.

2 Traffic will bottleneck

Traffic will reduce to a single lane in either direction while crews work along the street. Work will begin on the North side, and then move to the south.

3 What's being done?

The work includes the replacement of a water main that has reached the end of its life. Road reconstruction and resurfacing will further improve street conditions for cyclists and motorists. In 2017, streetscaping and sidewalk repair will begin.

4 Business and residents

Some driveways, sidewalks and grass boulevards will be removed in front of businesses and homes along the stretch.

Driveways and laneways owned by businesses will remain open for delivery and services.

5 Streetcar diversions

The TTC will redirect the 501 and 301 streetcars around the construction using Spadina, King and Shaw. Shuttle service will be provided on Queen Street West between Spadina and Shaw.

BUILDINGS

Notley: 90% of city saved

Alberta Premier Rachel Notley says the "ocean of fire" that hit Fort McMurray burned about 10 per cent of the buildings, but the hard work of firefighters saved the bulk of the city so it can be rebuilt.

"The fast action and the hard work and the dedication and the smarts of these first responders has, it appears, saved almost 90 per cent of the city of Fort McMurray," she said Monday after a ground tour of the devastation.

All 80,000 residents ordered out last Tuesday will have to wait at least two weeks to hear when they might be allowed to return.

Regional fire Chief Darby Allen said the speed and rapid growth of last week's wildfire was unprecedented.

"I truly believe nothing else could have been done that wasn't done to protect the people and the structures within our city," said Allen. "They're rewriting their formulas on how fires behave based on this fire."

25K

Notley said 2,400 buildings were torched, but 25,000 were saved, including the hospital, municipal buildings and schools.

Much of the downtown and the water treatment plant are intact.

"This city will emerge from this emergency with real structural resiliency with most of its critical infrastructure saved," said Notley.

But Notley reiterated that the community is not yet safe for people to return. Hot spots remain and large sections of the city don't have power, gas or water. She said a plan is to be developed over the next two weeks for the orderly and safe return of residents. THE CANADIAN PRESS

A burned-out barbecue is shown in the Abasand neighbourhood during a media tour of Fort McMurray, Alta., on Monday. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cruel randomness of fire on display among ruins

DAMAGE

School stands amid gutted homes in one neighbourhood

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Edmonton

Inside Fort McMurray, the raw cruelty that last week's fire wielded, forcing 88,000 people to flee, is front and centre.

But the cruel randomness of it all is also on display.

In Abasand, one of the most badly burned neighbourhoods, the École Boreal and its swing sets and playgrounds sit empty and undamaged, as if waiting for children to come back.

All around the school are homes reduced to empty shells: stoves and BBQs just barely recognizable and at one foundation, a charred skeleton of a bike securely chained at another.

The school stands but the walls, bedrooms, roofs of houses — the very places the school's children lived — are gone.

The school wasn't alone in surviving despite its surroundings: Many homes in the neighbourhood were spared, often just across the street from another that was destroyed.

> "Fort McMurray is still alive. We are here. We are ready for the future."
> Fire Chief Darby Allen

On a media tour of Fort McMurray Monday, reporters from around the world witnessed firsthand how the massive blaze, which continues to grow outside the city, has gutted a community.

If the damage in Abasand is arbitrary, in Beacon Hill it is complete.

The sign entering the community stands, and so do its bus stations, but row upon row of homes have only their basements remaining.

The cars are torched, tires melted.

Only the sidewalks and the driveways give hint at what was here before.

Fire Chief Darby Allen said the random homes that were saved were the result of hard work by firefighters.

"It was specific firefighter operations internally that stopped the spread of the fire," he said.

But in Beacon Hill, he said, they simply didn't have time.

His Birmingham accent might suggest otherwise, but Allen has called Fort McMurray home since 2009 and has been its fire chief for the last three and a half years.

Knowing his neighbours would be seeing the tragedy unfold on newscasts, Allen was stoic on the media tour and sent a message to the evacuees across the province.

"Fort McMurray is still alive. We are here. We are ready for the future," he said.

Shawn Chaulk poses with his collection of Wayne Gretzky memorabilia in 2013. JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

MEMORABILIA

Gretzky collector no longer so keen

He saved precious hockey memorabilia from the flames, but one of Canada's biggest sports collectors says the Fort McMurray fire may have cost him his hobby.

"I don't know that collecting means as much to me anymore," said Shawn Chaulk, who was once referred to as the Wayne Gretzky of Wayne Gretzky collectors.

Chaulk's collection is prodigious.

It includes dozens of game-worn jerseys and sticks, some worth up to $20,000. He has more than 100 Gretzky sticks from one used in the 1978 world junior tournament to one used in Gretzky's last game with the New York Rangers in 1999.

The list includes gloves and helmets worn during Stanley Cup victories and regular-season games, skates replete with scuffs and repairs and replica Stanley Cups once owned by former Oilers owner Peter Pocklington, who is still reviled by some Oilers fans for trading Gretzky to the Los Angeles Kings in 1988.

The situation put a whole new meaning on the question: What would you take if your home were on fire?

As his wife and children threw clothes and toys into suitcases last Tuesday during Fort McMurray's evacuation, Chaulk was downstairs with an associate trying to figure that one out.

"I dumped my safe and took things like Gretzky rookie cards. I opened two hockey bags and put them on the floor and said, 'Start filling 'em.'

"I was ripping jerseys out of display cases and off hangars at a speed I didn't know I could operate at — just throwing them at Mark and he was filling the hockey bags. We zipped up the two bags and that became it. What we had, we had."

The choices were tough.

"The No. 1 collectible I took out of there was Gretzky's '84 Canada Cup jersey worn in the cup-winning game. And his stick."

Chaulk decided to focus on jerseys, including three Mark Messier Team Canada jerseys.

"They're liquid and we could need the money to rebuild."

Sport memorabilia wasn't all that made the cut. His son's first skates and his daughter's first Oilers slippers went in the bag. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fellowship on the front lines

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Firefighters describe 'small victories' amid exhaustion

Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Dave Stirling and the other men of the ladder 4 Fort McMurray fire crew have been battling the wildfire since last Tuesday.

The wildfire has displaced nearly 88,000 people and has been estimated to cover upwards of 110,000 hectares — destroying the homes of thousands.

Stirling said it's a feeling of camaraderie that's motivating the crews, who are running on little sleep and have seen a lot of the city they love reduced to rubble.

"Just feeling tired," he said. "The sense of community and seeing all the brothers and sisters work together up here eases the pain."

Stirling said their sense of duty is propelling them during the hardest battle of their careers.

"We're doing what we love. We didn't chose this profession because of glory or fame," he said. "It's not just a job or a career, it's a life choice and everyone up here is doing what they in their hearts want to do — serve and protect."

As the fire continues to grow, Stirling said those on the front lines are doing what they can to keep motivated.

"We're just finding small victories and staying positive with the brothers and sisters all working together," he said. "It's s—y, but there's no sense dwelling on it. We all know it's an uphill battle, but we have a job to do."

As firefighters from other cities, provinces and even countries have arrived to help, Stirling said it's highlighted the fraternal nature of the brigade.

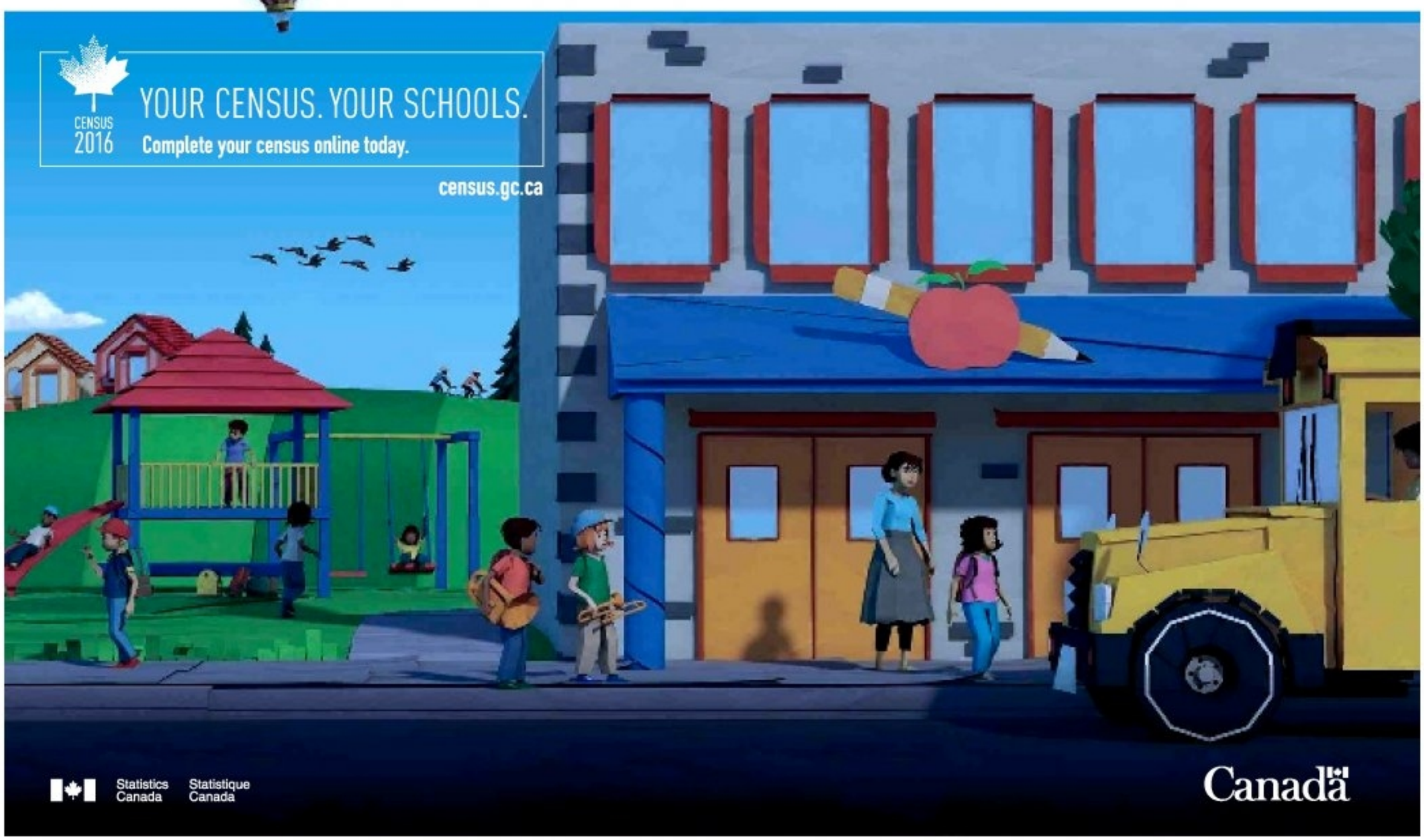
"Having the brothers and sisters fighting alongside us from all over is a huge support and means the world to us," he said. "We can't thank them enough for the sacrifices they're making for us."

"It's a part of the firefighting brotherhood — it's a huge worldwide family," he added. "It's too bad it takes an emergency like this for everyone outside of our community to see that."

Austen Tanney, a firefighter from High River, described the fire as "desperate," but said things are beginning to look up.

"The conditions are improving with visibility increasing but the winds have increased fanning the fire further east," he said. "I'm just proud of our province in coming together and I'm thankful for the opportunity to be here making a difference on the front line."

Destroyed trucks sit in Fort McMurray's Beacon Hill neighbourhood on Monday. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Pilot breaks rules for animals

RESCUE

Many residents barred from re-entering city to get pets

Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

Pilot Keith Mann didn't think twice to break the rules and load his plane with more than 40 furry friends, after they spent a few days north of the fire-ravaged Fort McMurray.

More than 80,000 Fort McMurray residents were ordered to flee on Tuesday, leaving many without their pets as they were barred from re-entering the city due to the advancing wildfire.

Since then, owners and their fur babies have begun to reunite through ongoing animal rescue efforts after the flames subsided.

Mann, Suncor Energy's manager of flight operations, said it just made sense to fly his load of critters down south after they sought refuge north of Fort McMurray.

Pauline Gebbie holds a hedgehog during the massive animal expedition. COURTESY KEITH MANN

This pooch had his own seat during the flight to Edmonton. COURTESY KEITH MANN

"We're all animal lovers here," Mann said. "We knew it was important for owners to re-connect with them."

For the past few days, Mann has flown about 6,000 people from camps up north to Calgary and Edmonton.

But one flight was a bit peculiar — it was like 101 Dalmatians on a plane, except it involved "cats, dogs, rabbits and chinchillas ... you name it," Mann said.

Normally, Suncor planes only allow a few animals on a plane per trip, and they must be secured in a kennel, Mann said.

But that policy just didn't make sense given the circumstances, so he made the executive decision to load them all up. "I just said, 'No, let's do this,'" Mann said.

Once every critter and human was secured, the aircraft took off in what Mann described as a relatively peaceful flight.

> "We're all animal lovers ... We knew it was important for owners to re-connect with them.
> Keith Mann

GTAA Annual Public Meeting

The Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA) hereby gives notice of its Annual Public Meeting.

The GTAA is the operator of Toronto Pearson International Airport, the largest airport in Canada and one of the largest in North America in terms of passenger and air cargo traffic. In 2015, more than 41 million passengers passed through the airport. By the mid-2030s, it is estimated the airport will serve 65 million passengers per year.

Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2016
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Location: Toronto Congress Centre, Sutherland Room, 650 Dixon Road, Toronto
Parking will be validated.

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Dion Hasad, right, was worried his dad, Ken, didn't make it out of Fort McMurray as the city began to burn. COURTESY DION HASAD

Father, son reunite after fleeing flames

MISSING

Fort McMurray man feared dad trapped in city's rubble

Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

Two days after the Fort McMurray wildfire destroyed much of the city, Dion Hasad had no idea if his dad, Ken, was still trapped among the rubble.

"While we were fleeing, I called my dad and said, 'Dad, get out now. Get out now,'" Hasad recalled, adding his father has a form of dementia.

"He was like, 'No one has evacuated us.' And I was like, 'I can't come back downtown because they won't let me in.'"

Dion's friends also waited outside Ken's driveway, hollering at him to come down and escape. But they also had to flee.

It wasn't until the very last moment that Ken hopped in his old pickup and left for Anzac, after noticing the city was in serious trouble.

At that point, Dion said he had no idea if his dad was safe, so he posted on Facebook that Ken was missing.

"That's where panic kicked in," he said. "I can't find my dad, and I don't know if he's being stubborn as usual or if he was seriously stuck.

"I just kept saying, 'I need to find him. I need to find him.'"

Turns out Ken had a few bumps while making his way to Anzac.

Dion said he ran out of gas in Wandering River, but that didn't stop him from meeting other evacuees and lending a helping hand.

"A guy who saw my Facebook post called me and said, 'Your dad gave us a jerry can of gas. He's all right," Dion said. "I was like, 'Ok, good — he's being the normal warm-hearted guy most people know him to be.'"

> **"I'm the oldest sibling, so it's my job to deal with these things."**
> Dion Hasad

Dion then called a friend in the area to pick Ken up and drive him to Cold Lake. "He didn't say much. It was just a hug and a thank you," Dion said. "I'm the oldest sibling, so it's my job to deal with these things."

Dion said he's scheduled to volunteer with the relief effort when officials re-open the city to residents.

HOUSING

Evacuees offered special terms

Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Landlords in Calgary are stepping up for a possible influx of evacuees.

According to the Calgary Residential Rental Association landlords are looking for ways to welcome new tenants, even if it's for a short period of time.

Gerry Baxter, executive director of the association said Calgary's rental market can handle the influx, and many of his members are already stepping up to help.

"We're not talking huge numbers of people," Baxter said. "Most people are being housed at the University campuses, but it may just be temporary for them. Most of them want to go home as soon as they can."

Baxter said some members are offering two months free rent, others in Calgary and Edmonton are waiving or minimizing their damage deposit fees, getting rid of lease break fee clauses, three-to-five-day stays and even month-to-month stays.

"You can leave when you want, which is typically unheard of in the rental market," said Baxter. "Given the condition of the market now, vacancies are much higher than they have been, I don't think there's any shortage for people looking to rent now."

Normally, Baxter said, it's not beneficial to have people staying for short stays, but many landlords understand the need and want to help people out.

Information is being collected now, and landlords are waiting to hear from the government for direction on how to help.

Canadians named in Panama Papers

OFFSHORE FINANCE

Identities of those involved available — and searchable

The secret identities of the people behind more than 200,000 anonymous offshore entities found in the Panama Papers have been made public.

The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, and its only Canadian partners, the Toronto Star and the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., have released a searchable database of the companies, trusts and foundations online.

The data comes from the controversial Panamanian law firm Mossack Fonseca, one of the biggest players in the grey zone of offshore financing. The information includes the names of directors, shareholders and beneficial owners — the real owners of a company, even though their names might not appear on the shareholder register — kept secret by confidentiality laws in tax havens. This is basic information that would be public if the corporations had been registered in more transparent jurisdictions.

The Panama Papers leak was originally received by the German newspaper Suddeutsche Zeitung. It shared the 11.5 million documents with the ICIJ and select journalism partners under the understanding the material was of great public interest.

More than 400 journalists, including members from the Guardian, the Miami Herald, the BBC and Le Monde, worked together for months to investigate the secretive world of high finance and those working behind the scenes to enable crime and corruption.

Reports based on the documents quickly led to the resignation of Iceland's Prime Minister David Gunnlaugson after it was revealed he and his wife had set up a company in the British Virgin Islands that had holdings in Iceland's failed banks.

200,000

Anonymous offshore entities were involved in the Panama Papers. Their owners and directors have now been revealed.

The database reveals the true owners and directors of the offshore firms, but does not include records of bank accounts and financial transactions, emails, passports, other correspondence and phone numbers, the ICIJ said.

The ICIJ said it was putting the information online "in the public interest" as "a careful release of basic corporate information" as it builds on an earlier database of offshore entities.

The ICIJ prefaced the data dump by noting that the appearance of particular persons and companies on the list doesn't imply wrongdoing. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HEALTH FEDS INCREASE DONATION TO INTERNATIONAL FUND FIGHTING AIDS Canada will donate $785 million over the 2017-19 period to an international fund aimed at fighting AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Monday. That represents a 20-per-cent increase from Canada's last pledge to the Global Fund, which was established in 2002 and raises an estimated $4 billion US every year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

RELATIONSHIPS

Love for Americans fleeing Trump

A new dating website is offering to pair Americans with Canadian singles to save them from a Donald Trump presidency.

MapleMatch.com promises love and a U.S. escape plan if Trump becomes president.

The website promises to "make dating great again," parodying the presumptive Republican presidential nominee's slogan.

"It's easy to say, 'This is just about Americans trying to find a way to get residency in Canada," CEO Joe Goldman said.

While the dating service has yet to launch, its waitlist has already attracted over 4,200 sign-ups — 70 per cent of them Canadian, according to Goldman.

"We thought it might really be a good idea to started this before another wall gets built," Goldman said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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UN seeks to reframe refugee crisis

XENOPHOBIA

Report aims to help countries adjust to influx

A new UN report aims to reframe the way many countries deal with refugees and migrants, creating a responsible and predictable international system to handle them at a time when their numbers are at the highest level since the world body began keeping track.

The report was written in preparation for a high-level meeting in the General Assembly on Sept. 19 to address the issue of large movements of refugees and migrants.

That meeting will be followed by a summit organized by U.S. President Barack Obama, where world leaders will be asked to pledge money in response to the problem.

"One of the thoughts behind what we were doing was to change the narrative on refugees and migrants because part of what's happening now is that people are afraid they're terrorists or they're criminals or their taking their jobs," said UN Special Adviser on the Summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants Karen AbuZayd.

"The goal of the report is to create a better response to large movements of refugees and migrants for the benefit not only of those on the move but for those who accept them."

AbuZayd points out that contrary to xenophobic rhetoric sparked by influxes of displaced peoples, migrants are often the most productive members of society.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Syrian migrants pose for a portrait at a makeshift camp in Idomeni, Greece. GREGORIO BORGIA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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U.S. ELECTION

Party unity no worry for Donald Trump

For Donald Trump, party unity is a good thing. But he's making clear he won't change his views or soften his rhetoric to get it.

"Look, I'm going to get millions and millions of votes more than the Republicans would have gotten" without me, Trump said.

In other words, get on board or get out of the way.

It's a risky calculation for a presumptive Republican nominee who this November will likely go up against Hillary Clinton, a seasoned campaigner who is faring well in the polls and has broad support across her party.

But to Trump supporters like adviser Paul Manafort, shrugging off hostility from party insiders is something Trump can afford to do.

"The important thing to remember is the national titular head of the party is the nominee of the Republican Party," Manafort said. Trump "just won that overwhelmingly, faster than anybody in Washington thought and running as an outsider against Washington. So, his agenda is the people's agenda."

Trump moved from presidential front runner to presumptive nominee last week when he crushed rival Ted Cruz in the Indiana primary, and Cruz dropped out of the race. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Donald Trump THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Mexico judge says 'El Chapo' extradition may proceed

A federal judge has ruled that the extradition of drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman can move ahead, Mexico's Judicial Council said Monday. But the country's Foreign Relations Department must still approve it and the defence can appeal.

The Foreign Relations Department has 20 days to decide whether to approve Guzman's extradition to the United States.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Your essential daily news

PHILOSOPHER CAT by Jason Logan

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
ON THOSE WHO LOST EVERYTHING

Anyone watching Fort McMurray would have wondered: 'What would I take? What would I leave?' 'It's just stuff,' you might have told yourself. But that is not true.

The mass exodus from Fort McMurray last week was marked, in part, by tales of things.

What was hastily, even comically (in retrospect) gathered: clothing and a large clock; the stuffed bear head lifted from its place on the wall; half a blender and a watermelon; cheese slices and snow pants.

Then, what was left behind: "It's not fair," one woman, who had been living at a campsite before it was consumed by flames, told the CBC. "They didn't even let us take our things. We lost everything now."

It wasn't a euphemism. Speaking to a camera crew while the fire raged behind her, distressed and in tears, she had only the clothes in which she stood.

Anyone listening to the radio the day after that hectic evacuation would have wondered: "What would I take? What would I leave?"

"It's just stuff," you might have told yourself, looking around at the jumble of items that articulate that most private landscape: the home.

But that is not true.

Yesterday, Alberta Premier Rachel Notley visited the scorched town to survey damage, reporters in tow. The visit will inform plans for residents' return. Swept out in a frenzy, people will soon begin to flow back into Fort McMurray. There will be something to return to: Hospitals, schools and the airport survived the blaze, as did many homes. But much will have changed, and much will be gone forever. Even neighbourhoods could be unrecognizable.

"You walk into these areas and you could have lived there all your life and you're completely disoriented," Ron Mattiussi, a Kelowna resident during that city's 2003 fire, told the CBC of the aftermath there. "All the landmarks are gone."

This idea, of a lost home, has preoccupied me since the crisis began.

"What is a home," a friend mused over the weekend, "if not the museum of your life?"

That has probably always been true, but perhaps never more so than now, when it can feel as though we live to consume. (You could argue we are consumers, then taxpayers, then a nationality, and then, perhaps, a gender, a race, an urban identity, a community member.)

You are what you own, and what could be more terrifying than losing it all?

Sex in the City's Carrie Bradshaw once snarked that shopping was her cardio. Just think how fit we'd be if people actually walked to stores: In 2011, the U.S. Commerce Department reported Americans spent $1.2 trillion on goods and services they didn't need. Yes, we're Canadians, but we also like our stuff.

That modern abundance has in turn spawned the age of minimalist Marie Kondo, who asks that you ascribe more than utility or fleeting affinity to your possessions, but a deep and abiding joy. And in this world, where, either way, you are what you own, what could be more terrifying than losing it all?

Speaking to the Atlantic magazine about the psychology of home, the environmental psychologist Susan Clayton called our domestic space a source of "self-definition." Where we live, and what we surround ourselves with, contributes to our identity. It can shape our routines, and we mold it reflect who we want to be.

Of course, those are both things — routines and a sense of self — that can change. Certainly, Fort McMurray's 80,000 residents have proven themselves nothing if not resilient. They are of course more than where they lived (or will live again, if they are among the lucky). Like all of us, their relationships undoubtedly matter most.

But we are nesting, possessive creatures. Our spaces remind us who we are — someone who likes these textiles, wears these clothes, drinks each morning from this mug, nurtures that plant, reads (or aspire to read) those books or magazines. Look around your private space, with all the talismans of your life, and then imagine it is all gone. Everything.

It is not the worst that could happen, but still. What a shock. What loss.

Council's taxi debate is bigger than Uber

TORY'S TORONTO
Matt Elliott

As Toronto city councillors last week talked their way toward their vote to legalize Uber – and companies like Uber – as a transportation provider in the city, the most notable thing for me about the debate was that a bunch of important social and economic issues kept cropping up.

In between the usual droning on about insurance requirements and surge pricing, some anti-Uber councillors gave speeches acknowledging the trouble with income inequality, where owners make a mint while those doing the work struggle to get by in an increasingly expensive city.

Some touched on the barriers faced by immigrants — especially non-white immigrants — when it comes to finding opportunities.

And some even talked a bit about the reality of precarious employment, where the conversion of full-time jobs to part-time gigs has left millennials feeling doomed to a life of basement apartments and hustling for tiny bits of cash from the "sharing economy."

On one hand, it was good to see this come up in a formal council debate. These issues are some of the biggest and thorniest facing our city.

On the other hand, it was pretty damn frustrating.

Because it shouldn't take controversy over a narrow set of industry reforms to get people to pay attention to the socioeconomic realities facing Toronto. These problems are way bigger than Uber.

According to figures in the city's poverty reduction strategy, in Toronto one in four children and one of every five adults live in poverty. A full one-third of people in racial minority groups are below the poverty line. The same goes for just under half the population of recent immigrants.

Meanwhile, the youth unemployment rate is 22 per cent, recent reports say.

These numbers cry out for way more than political lip service. But action is fleeting — generally keeping property taxes below inflation rates more important with city council than funding anti-poverty measures.

I won't put all the blame on city hall. For years, federal and provincial governments have turned away from taking real action on poverty. They've left municipal governments to use their very limited resources to cobble together strategies.

But spreading the blame around doesn't do anything to help the people in the city living without resources, without supports and without opportunity. Some of those people are cab drivers. Some of them are even Uber drivers. Most of them have nothing to do with the taxi industry at all.

It's important to remember that. City hall may have resolved the Uber debate, but there is so much left to fix.

Matt Elliott lives and writes in Toronto. Follow him on Twitter @GraphicMatt

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E-cigarettes are sickening more children due to cases involving liquid nicotine swallowing

Battling anorexia as an adult

Support lacking for those facing high mortality rates of chronic disorder

Lisa Sheinfeld, 42, has battled anorexia nervosa off-and-on for two decades. VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The dizzying combination of side effects hit Lisa Sheinfeld like clockwork.

Two hours after she'd taken her usual amount of laxatives on an autumn afternoon last year, the 42-year-old Thornhill, Ont., mother of three sat in a public washroom, sweaty and lightheaded. The pain, she recalls, was more intense than being in labour. To cope with her overwhelming nausea, she curled her thin body into a ball on the floor with a sweater bunched under her arm. It was an awful, all-too-familiar feeling.

And she'd done it to herself.

For two decades, Sheinfeld has been coping with anorexia nervosa, a chronic and deadly eating disorder. Anorexia has a typical onset in the early teens, but the stereotype of young women hoping to shed a few pounds doesn't tell the full story.

Around 150,000 Canadians have or once had anorexia, according to data in a 2014 federal report. Other research shows around 20 per cent of people who develop anorexia in adolescence or young adulthood have a chronic course, typically living with the disorder for a decade or more.

Having an eating disorder throughout adulthood comes with distinct challenges, including few intensive treatment options, lengthy wait times, high mortality rates and the strain of also juggling a family and career.

For Sheinfeld, the disorder started in her early 20s when she first tried using laxatives.

The initial feeling of a flat stomach was "amazing," Sheinfeld recalls, but soon her family started noticing her frequent bathroom trips and weight loss.

After being diagnosed, she tried therapy and attended a treatment program in Toronto. It was like a detox, she says, and only lasted around three weeks.

At 29, she married her husband Rob. With children on the horizon, Sheinfeld knew her body needed to be healthy; the laxatives would have to go.

For the next 10 years, the disorder seemed to be under control. Sheinfeld never used laxatives in the stretch when her three sons, now aged 9, 7 and 5, were conceived and born. But in April 2014, she says a "switch went off."

Sheinfeld bought a pack of drugstore laxatives — she can't recall why — and, in the back of her mind, she knew she was inviting a return.

"It happened very quickly. I knew all the secrets. I knew how to lie," she recalls.

Sheinfeld lost 30 pounds in less than a year.

"It's like I'm on a merry-go-round and I just can't get off of it," Sheinfeld says. "I want to but I can't."

Dr. Allan Kaplan, a senior clinician-scientist with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), compares anorexia to an addiction. A trigger like depression or anxiety will lead someone to start using drugs, he says, but the symptoms of withdrawal causes them to continue.

"Someone who is in cocaine withdrawal or heroin withdrawal can't will themselves to not be in withdrawal. It's the same with anorexia nervosa — someone can't will themselves to be in control," says Kaplan, who has spent 35 years studying the psychobiology of anorexia and bulimia.

And that cycle can be deadly. Among the side-effects of anorexia, studies show ongoing weight loss can lead to osteoporosis, fertility problems and atrophy of the brain, and the suicide mortality rate of people with anorexia is one of the highest of all psychiatric illnesses, according to studies cited by the American Association of Suicidology.

The National Eating Disorder Information Centre suggests an estimated 10 per cent of people with anorexia will die within 10 years of the disorder's onset — a stat that jumps to 50 per cent for those suffering a chronic course, either because of medical complications or by suicide, Kaplan says.

But for adult sufferers, finding suitable treatment is difficult. Sheinfeld says she's been told her Body Mass Index is too low for certain treatment programs, while others have responded with months-long waiting lists.

"My hope is just to have a life," Sheinfeld says. "To have my life back."

The disorder affects how the brain communicates with the gut, says Dr. Angela Guarda, director of the Eating Disorders Program at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. People with anorexia feel full with less food, she says, and also have symptoms of a gastro-intestinal disorder, such as bloating, constipation and abdominal pain.

And while parents might be able to force a child into treatment, it's a different situation with a spouse.

Sheinfeld's husband can relate. Last fall, at a therapy session for families of people with eating disorders, Rob looked around the room — and all he saw were parents.

"If your child is under 18, you can put them in a hospital as a parent. You can take things away from them," he says. "How do you do that with a 42-year-old? Am I going to take her car away, say she can't go out with her girlfriends? I can't do that."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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HOW ANOREXIA AFFECTS THE BRAIN

- Even when intensive treatment programs are available, helping longtime anorexia sufferers is challenging, says CAMH's Dr. Allan Kaplan. "Once people lose weight, they change their brain chemistry," he says. "Their processing isn't normal."
- When people lose weight, they lose body tissue from every part of their body, including the brain.
- Kaplan's current research focuses on how anorexia impacts the brain's myelin, the fatty covering of "white matter" that delivers information to the "grey matter" centres controlling emotions and high-level thinking.

PROGRESS

Mother leads national push for more research

Wendy Preskow founded the National Initiative for Eating Disorders in 2012 after witnessing her daughter's struggle to get adequate care. Her daughter Amy, 30, has been coping with anorexia and bulimia since she was 14.

She said long wait times for treatment programs often lead to stints in the hospital instead. In 2014 alone, Amy went to the hospital four times; in one instance, clinicians needed to give her an injection and couldn't figure out how to do it because of her gaunt frame.

Preskow is leading the national push for more research. In April, she met with MPs in Ottawa in hopes of moving forward on recommendations made in the 2014 eating-disorders report from the Standing Committee on the Status of Women — such as creating a centralized data base of treatment programs, addressing long wait times and closing gaps in data collection about eating disorders.

"Eating disorders need to have the same recognition, funding, and research that every other physical disease gets," Preskow says. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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DOCUMENTARY

New series by Gloria Steinem explores global gender issues

For her latest project in pursuit of equality, Gloria Steinem is turning to television.

The feminist activist and author makes her debut Tuesday as producer and host of Woman, a documentary series on the Viceland network about gender-based violence and injustice around the world.

The series came out of a discussion with Vice Media chief Shane Smith, Steinem said.

When she told him how violence against women predicts and normalizes violence at all levels of society, he "responded in a very heartfelt way."

The result is eight short documentaries, all by young female journalists, each focused on an issue threatening women in a particular region of the world.

The first episode looks at the epidemic of rape as a tool and symptom of war in Congo, with more than 1.8 million victims over the last 20 years.

Future installments explore female guerrilla fighters in Colombia, child brides in Zambia, and the murder of indigenous women in Canada.

Steinem will host and produce an eight-part documentary series on the **Viceland** network, called **Woman**, about the political impact of violence against women throughout the world. The series premieres Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Steinem, 82, talked with The Associated Press about the show and how she stays hopeful after six decades of activism.

What did you say to Shane Smith that made him insist you do a show?

I was talking about violence against females in the world and the degree to which, first of all, it normalizes other violence. It tends to be what we see first in our families or in the streets.

It turns out to be the biggest indicator — more than poverty, more than degree of education, religion, access to natural resources, even degree of democracy — violence against females is the biggest indicator of whether a country will be violent in itself or be willing to use military violence against another country.

How did you decide what to focus on for these eight episodes?

We were clear that we wanted to include every continent. We didn't want to make it seem as though problems of violence were limited to one part of the world. We looked at what was most prevalent or important to the women's movements in that country.

The challenges facing some of the women you show are upsetting, but you've said the series makes you feel less helpless. Why?

We have to know before we can act, and the very fact that this is allowing millions of people to have the experience of walking around and talking to people and listening is a step forward in itself.

We know from many forms of suffering that what is important first is a witness — people want to know that someone else knows what's happening, that they're not alone — and someone who listens to what is needed and tries to help.

What real, concrete changes have you seen in your fight for feminism?

We now know, deeply and in the majority, that the old discriminatory systems are crazy, we are not crazy.

We now know that racism is not real, it's made up, it's cruel, it can be stopped. We know sexism is not inevitable. It's only about controlling reproduction and therefore controlling women.

If we have reproductive freedom, that is the ability to decide for ourselves when and whether to have children and what happens to our bodies, it can be reversed.

It's the understanding that it's not inevitable. I think that is crucial. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

After seven seasons, CBS aired the **series finale** on Sunday. HANDOUT

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

The Good Wife's seven-year switch

THE SHOW: The Good Wife, series finale (CBS/Global)
THE MOMENT: Will's advice

She's gotten her governor husband Peter (Chris Noth) a light sentence for his crimes, and plans to divorce him.

Now attorney Alicia Florrick (Julianna Margulies) stands alone in her apartment.

"What do I do now?" she asks the air.

The ghost of Will (Josh Charles), Alicia's true love, appears. "Go to him," Will says, referring to wolfish investigator Jason (Jeffrey Dean Morgan). "Do you really want to live here alone? It will drive you crazy."

"You're right," she says.

HUH? From the beginning, I loved The Good Wife. The characters' intelligence (and wardrobes) were exactly right, as were the ripped-from-the-headlines cases, and the amount of soap opera.

This season irritated me, though. Instead of being about Alicia, it was about the men who define her. I get that the plot had to land her on that podium, where she could stand next to Peter as she did in episode 1 – but differently.

But that slap! Alicia's boss/mentor Diane (Christine Baranski) smacks her for betraying her, in the same hallway where Alicia slapped Peter in the pilot.

Suddenly, the whole series is not about Alicia becoming independent. Suddenly it's about shaming her for attaining power.

The climax strands Alicia without friends or job because she became what she hated — about Peter. (Again, defining her in relation to him.) She now has to go out to the bad world and redefine herself again. To me, show creators Robert and Michelle King's decision undermines their whole series. You were rooting for Alicia, it says — but you were wrong to. Yuck.

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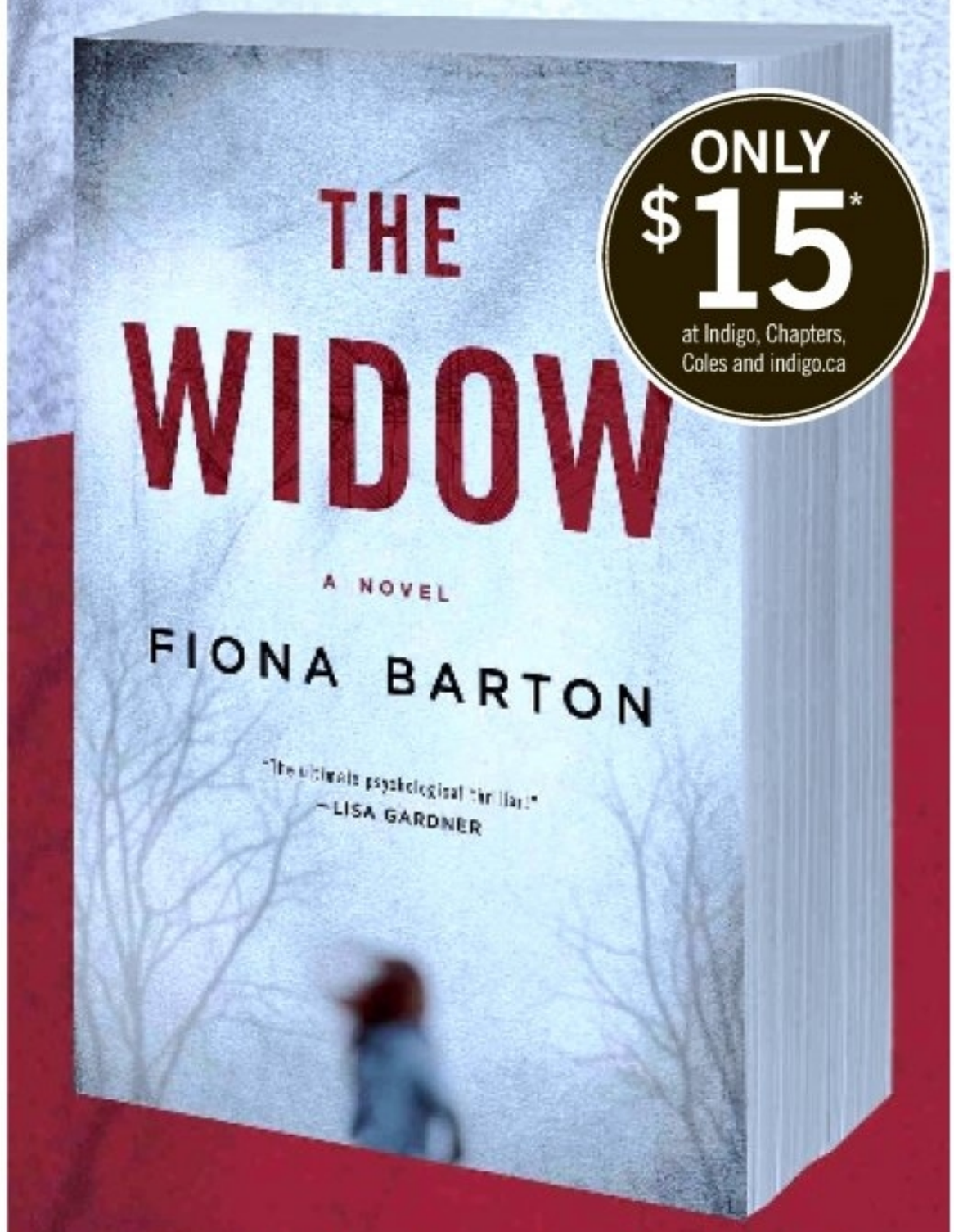

Loving husband... or heartless killer?
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LEARNING CURVE

Stay in an academic mind frame

ISTOCK

Final exams will soon be a thing of the past and students will breathe sighs of relief as they usher in summer vacation. And while for most it is a time to work, travel or relax, academics should not be totally forgotten, says one education expert.

"The way our society is, you have to be committed to continuous learning throughout your career and that starts while you are in school. If you take an active approach it will ensure you are progressing," says Allison Schubert, an instructor and coordinator of academic upgrading courses at Vancouver Community College known as Career Access, which help students learn how to develop career decision-making skills. "It's good to stay connected to your field of study and there's lots of ways to do that without taking formal, tuition-based courses."

Remaining in an academic mind fame over the summer break, Schubert says, could actually start before the semester ends. She says talking to instructors or professors is a great first step in finding out what you can read or review to stay current.

"I'm sure most instructors would see a student approaching them as positive and would be happy to suggest readings or names of authors who might be influential in your field," she says. "Also, if you're in a program that builds on prior knowledge each semester, doing a review will be helpful. Focus on the topics that you found challenging so that you are comfortable with them when the next semester rolls around."

Because being engaged during a time traditionally devoted to an academic break can seem daunting, students can also take more hands-off approaches.

This includes focusing on career goals and the field they will enter rather than coursework review or readings.

"Mentors are a fantastic source of knowledge to help you to understand what you are working towards in a more realistic way," says Schubert. "Joining professional organizations and going to networking events are potential ways of meeting mentors. You can also use social media, such as LinkedIn, where you can follow professional groups to get updates on the industry in which you will be working."

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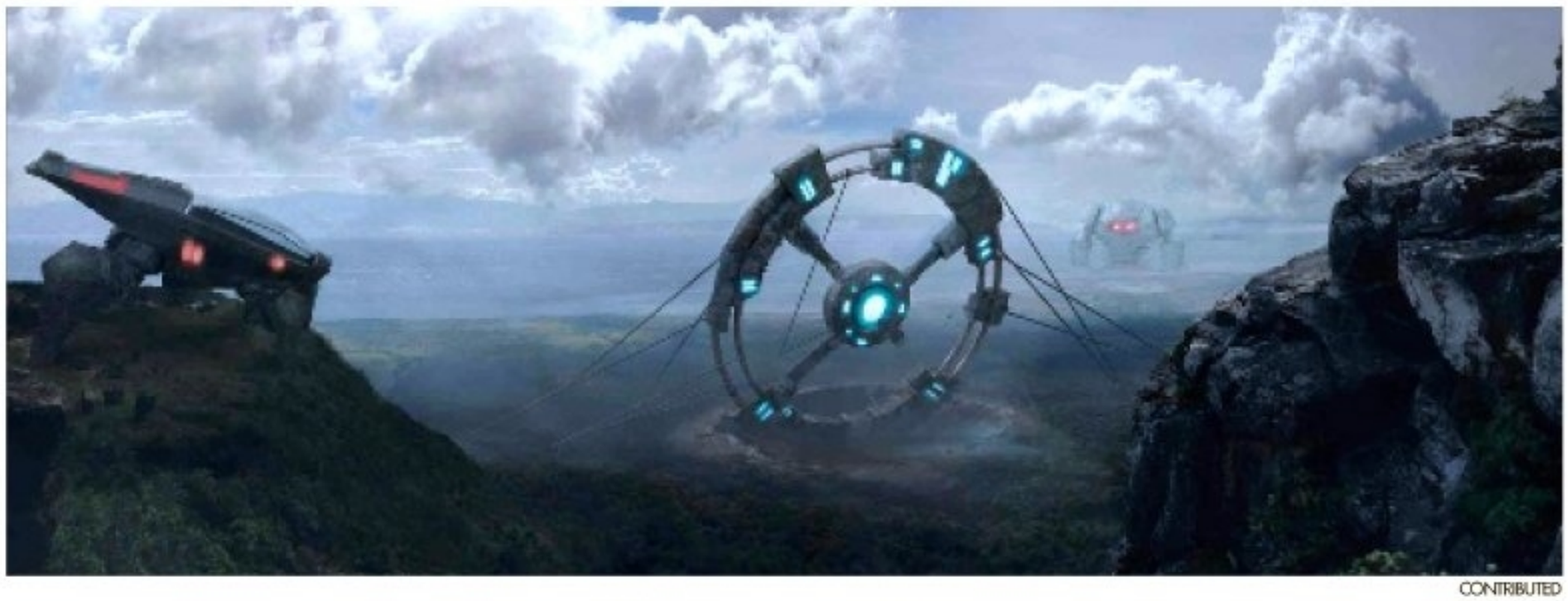

CONTRIBUTED

Preparing students for the ever-changing visual effects industry requires insider knowledge of technological advancements, the latest techniques and an understanding of what the studios where graduates may launch their careers are looking for. You'll find exactly that, and a lot more, at Centennial College's digital visual effects offering, says the program coordinator.

"All of our faculty members are working in the industry in studios such as Pixomondo, which creates the dragons you see on Game of Thrones, and AIC Studios, so there's the advantage of these industry professionals bringing the latest knowledge right into the program," says Bohdan Ruzycky. "The industry is constantly influx so we leave it up to the instructors to tweak the curriculum on the fly if need be."

The full-time offering was launched in fall 2015 as the only two-year college diploma program of its kind in Ontario, meaning that it is open to both high school graduates and those who already have experience and are looking to change or upgrade their careers. With a curriculum developed with recommendations from an advisory committee packed with industry professionals, Ruzycky says students are getting the knowledge and skills that will ensure they are career ready once they graduate.

"The industry is growing faster here in Toronto than anywhere in the world, really," he says. "We are getting a lot of work for the film broadcast and TV industries. It is booming. So, we have made sure the program is very hands-on and covers the basics before moving onto more specialized knowledge.

"Students have the opportunity in the third and fourth semesters to focus on one of the specialties in visual effects: matte painting, rendering and lighting, or compositing."

With fully outfitted workspaces and 24-hour lab access, visual design effects students have all of the resources they need to succeed, says Ruzycky. And, in addition to individual and group projects that result in a demo reel that can be used when applying for jobs, students also complete a field placement during their final semester.

"The demo reel combined with the work experience opens doors and gives them a leg up, for sure," says Ruzycky.

metro SPORTS

Leicester manager Claudio Ranieri has been given an open offer from the Italian soccer federation to coach the national team at some point

Valanciunas expresses dismay over ankle injury

RAPTORS TAKE ON THE HEAT

Centre hopes for a speedy recovery

A tiny chair had been put aside for Jonas Valanciunas to meet the swarming media Monday morning, the first chat session the Toronto Raptors centre had held since spraining his ankle bad enough to be sidelined for the rest of the team's NBA Eastern Conference semifinal.

His right calf and ankle encased in a cumbersome boot, Valanciunas pulled back a curtain to see the chair, basically flung it aside over the protestations of the team's media relations staff and defiantly stood there to make his point.

He's OK, he hopes to be back soon and his spirits seem high.

"(It's) tough because I was enjoying playing basketball," Valanciunas said. "I was doing work so right now I cannot think about it, have to just get better and come back. I am going to do everything that I can."

While already ruled out for the rest of the series with the Miami Heat, Valanciunas wasn't about to predict his availability should Toronto move on to face the Cleveland Cavaliers in the conference final.

The next series will begin Sunday at 3:30 p.m. in Cleveland if the Heat-Raptors series ends in six games or less. Otherwise, the Eastern Conference final will start Tuesday night.

"We're just going to see what's happening," he said. "It's already got a little bit better over night, the plan is ice, keeping it high and resting. You do this and see what happens."

The seven-foot centre had been averaging 18.3 points per game on 65 per cent shooting and 12.7 rebounds this series against the Heat. His loss will be a substantial blow to Toronto's hopes of making the first conference final in franchise history.

> **I have faith in my teammates ... I'm going to be cheering, going to be doing what I can do to support them.**
> Jonas Valanciunas

"It just sucks, the things J.V. was doing can't be duplicated," DeMar DeRozan said Monday morning. "It's just gonna be a little bit more onus on the guards to be more efficient and more aggressive." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Go to metronews.ca for coverage of Heat-Raptors Game 4.

Jonas Valanciunas left Saturday's game with a sprained ankle. ALAN DIAZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Curry repeats as league MVP, source confirms

Stephen Curry is adding a second straight MVP award to his record-setting season.

A person with knowledge of the award says Curry will be announced as the winner perhaps as soon as Tuesday.

Curry led the Warriors to an NBA-record 73 wins in the regular season. He also led the league in scoring with 30.1 points per game and shattered his own record for three-pointers by making 402. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada rolls over Belarus

Buffalo Sabres forward Ryan O'Reilly scored twice as Canada remained unbeaten at the world hockey championship with an 8-0 rout of Belarus on Monday.

Canada has now outscored its opponents 20-2 in three games. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Roughriders entertaining offers for draft's top pick

Saskatchewan Roughriders head coach/GM Chris Jones said Monday he's fielded numerous offers for the top pick in Tuesday night's CFL draft.

The Riders have the first selection after last season's league-worst 3-15 record.

"We're going to look at the best offer and then we'll make the right decision for us," Jones said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Blue Jays acquired pitcher Joe Biagini from the Giants in December's Rule 5 draft. TOM SZCZERBOWSKI/GETTY IMAGES

BLUE JAYS

Pitcher owes Giants for start in baseball

Joe Biagini always envisioned himself pitching at San Francisco's AT&T Park while wearing a Giants uniform.

He'll get the chance to fulfil at least half of that dream over the next few days.

Biagini, a former San Francisco draft pick and current Blue Jays rookie reliever, grew up less than 70 kilometres from the Giants' home ballpark, where his new team started a three-game interleague series on Monday.

Sitting in the tunnel between the Blue Jays dugout and clubhouse at Rogers Centre last week, Biagini, who's quickly becoming known for his quirky personality, turned serious when asked about going back home.

"My whole idea of baseball was very much constructed by the Giants and AT&T Park," Biagini said. "Getting drafted by the Giants, the hope was I'd play there one day.

"Ironically I'm now about as far away from there as you can get, but I'll hopefully get to pitch (in the series) and I'm excited about that."

Toronto snatched the 25-year-old right-hander from San Francisco in December's Rule 5 draft and put him on the big-league roster out of spring training even though he'd never pitched above double-A.

In the Rule 5, the drafting team pays $50,000 for each selected player. If that player is taken off his new team's 25-man roster at any point in the season, the old team can buy him back at half that price.

Entering Monday's game, Biagini had made seven appearances spanning 9-2/3 innings. He had a record of 1-1 with 0.93 earned-run average and nine strikeouts. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN THE FAMILY

Biagini's father, Rob, played two seasons in the San Francisco organization in the 1980's before settling in the area to raise his family with his wife, Michele.

IN BRIEF

Murray ends experiment with coach Mauresmo

Andy Murray split with coach Amelie Mauresmo on Monday, ending a groundbreaking two-year relationship during which he improved as a clay-court player but failed to add Grand Slam titles.

Murray became the first high-profile men's player to hire a woman as a coach when he hired Mauresmo in June 2014.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

You'll be putting your life at risk here.

Brazil soccer great Rivaldo is telling tourists to stay away from the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro because of the danger of endemic violence.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Squad goals come first

"I'm here to win. It's one thing to come here and score goals and lose. Would you rather that? I didn't think so. Jozy Altidore

MLS

TFC confident in Altidore with striker stuck on zero goals in '16

On a night when he won cheers from the crowd, praise from his coach and helped his team to a win, Toronto FC striker Jozy Altidore left BMO Field with a burr under his saddle.

The normally mellow American was irked by repeated questions about his lack of scoring this season. When the matter was raised twice in his post-game scrum, there was steel in Altidore's voice.

"I think that's a bit much to say I'm not getting the goals," he said with an icy look at his questioner. "I think I did well last season. I had a slow start this season in terms of injury.

"And I'm here to win. It's one thing to come here and score goals and lose. Would you rather that? I didn't think so."

In seven games (five starts) this season including Saturday's 1-0 win over FC Dallas, Altidore has two assists but no goals. He had 13 goals in 25 games last season, averaging a league goal every 138 minutes.

It's a sensitive issue for a forward who scored just two goals in 70 Premier League matches for Sunderland and Hull City.

But prior to England, he had 51 goals in all competitions in two seasons with Dutch team AZ Alkmaar. And he has 34 goals in 93 appearances for the national team.

And the numbers don't do the 26-year-old justice this season. Altidore was initially kept out of the lineup to protect a hamstring injury and the national team kept him away from the Toronto training field.

Manager Greg Vanney's change to a 4-4-2 formation remains a work in progress. Tsubasa Endoh, who plays at the tip of the diamond, found himself competing for space with Altidore several times Saturday, including on the play that led to the Japanese rookie's goal from a Sebastian Giovinco feed.

Toronto, which has the league's best defence at 0.78 goals-against per game, is tied for 16th in offence at 1.11 goals per game.

Vanney, for one, has no complaints about Altidore and saw plenty to be positive about Saturday.

"I'm not (concerned), I'm disappointed for him," Vanney said Saturday. "Because like tonight he did 99 per cent of things that I thought he needed to do. And it just isn't falling for him right now. If he continues to play like that he'll end up the season between 15 and 20 goals." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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RECIPE Asian Chicken Salad

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

This fresh and crunchy salad is satisfying enough to serve for dinner but also makes a portable lunch so let's just make life easy and double this recipe now.

Ready in
Prep time: 20 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes

Ingredients
- 2 chicken breasts
- 1/4 - 1/2 head of purple cabbage, thinly sliced
- 1/4 - 1/2 head of green cabbage, thinly sliced
- 2 carrots, shredded
- 1 red pepper, thinly sliced
- 1/2 cucumber, peeled and sliced
- 2 spring onions, sliced
- handful cilantro, chopped
- 1/3 cup peanuts, chopped (optional)

Directions

1. Fill a skillet with water and season the water with salt and pepper and bring it to a simmer. Place the chicken breasts in the water and cook them for 10 to 12 minutes, depending on how thick the breasts are. Remove the meat from the skillet and place on a clean plate. Use two forks to shred the chicken.

2. In a small bowl, whisk together the dressing ingredients.

3. In a large serving bowl, toss together the vegetables and chicken. Drizzle dressing over the salad and toss again. Serve the salad in bowls and garnish with cilantro and chopped peanuts.

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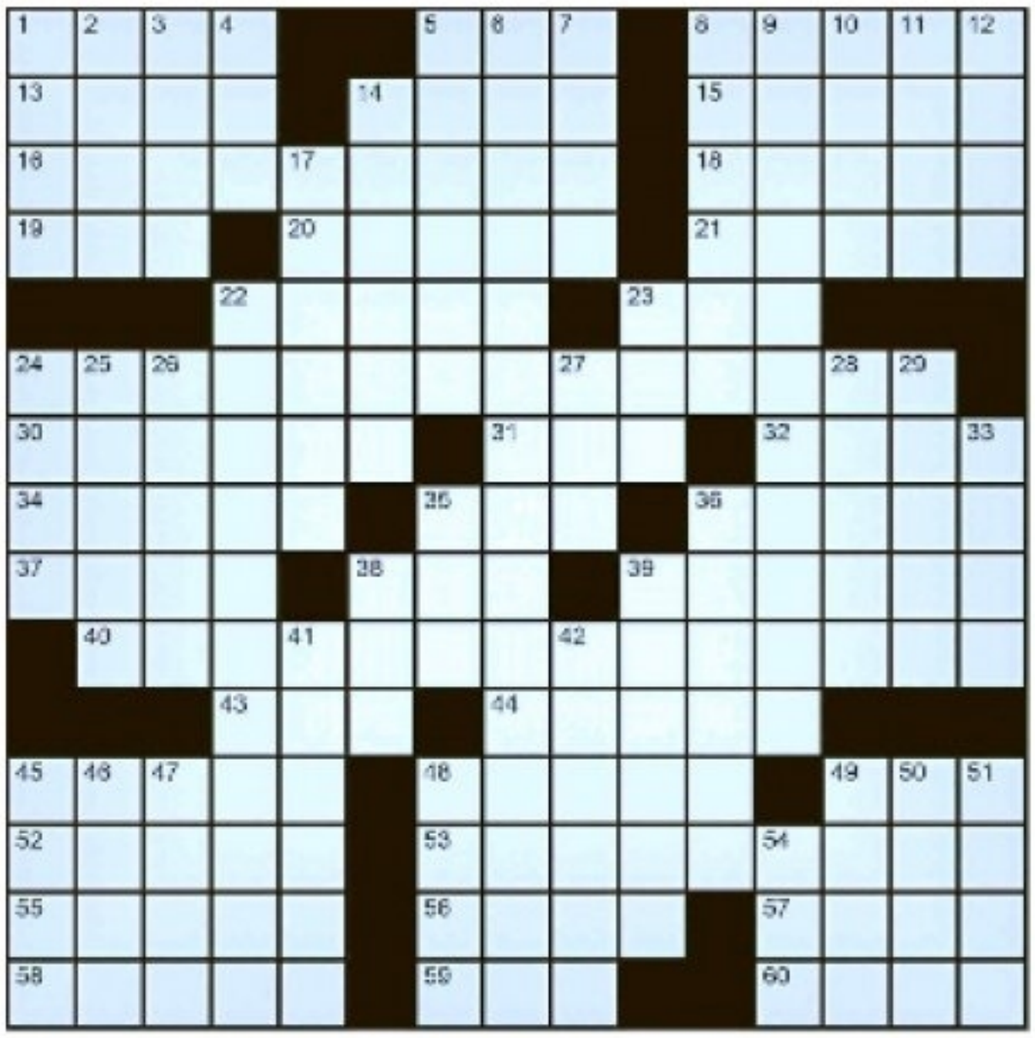
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Cooking fat
5. "Dancing with the Stars" host ...his initials-sharers
8. Canadian Olympian Ms. Hughes
13. "Walk Like _ _" by The Four Seasons
14. 'Prem' suffix (Movie's first showing)
15. _ space (Starry locale)
16. Celine Dion at Caesars Palace, e.g.: 2 wds.
18. Tea party treat
19. Tree-chopping tool
20. Bubbly bars
21. Communicates via clickety-clacks
22. Cook, as broccoli
23. Damage
24. Current superhero movie for Canadian actress Emily VanCamp, "_ _: Civil War" (2016)
30. Away, archaically
31. "Ready or _!"
32. Ring up
34. Minerals in multivitamins
35. Docs
36. Twin-crystal
37. Director Mr. Keshishian
38. Tender
39. Livestock identification: 2 wds.
40. Exterior housing feature: 2 wds.
43. Bit of butter
44. _ voce (Softly)
45. Good at crafts
48. Sailor's away-from-home status: 2 wds.
49. Frequently, in verse
52. 'Queen of Mean' hotelier Ms. Helmsley
53. In a non-wasting manner
55. Tycoon
56. But, in Boucherville
57. Tavern serving
58. Hunks of concrete
59. Britannica, e.g.
60. Relinquish control

DOWN
1. Psychedelic lighting, _ lamp
2. Charge card, nicknamed
3. Fury
4. Forensic 'fingerprint'
5. Iran's capital city
6. Household cleaning duo: 3 wds.
7. Stitches
8. Dana Carvey, to Mike Myers in movies
9. Classic sitcom tenant: 2 wds.
10. Perched on
11. Boulevard in Montreal, _-Levesque
12. Ancient Greece's war god
14. Affirmative response to someone pointing over there: 3 wds.
17. Belonging to Beelzebub
22. One with one's nose in the air, some might say: 3 wds.
23. Fulfilled
24. Hunting, in Spanish
25. Eva _ ("Canadian Idol" Season 4 champion in 2006)
26. _ of experts (Cable news show guests)
27. Rap artist, _ Def
28. Prickly plants
29. _ Gardens Conservatory (Botanical attraction in Toronto)
33. _ Mason (Asset management company)
35. Clock div.
36. Rum/curacao/lime cocktail: 2 wds.
38. Fragment
39. Compounds in perfume
41. Ancient peoples of Chichen Itza
42. Inlaid artwork
45. Belonging to Edmonton's prov.
46. Tangible
47. Afghanistan's _ Bora
48. "Are you as hungry _ _?" (Let's eat!)
49. S-shaped moulding
50. Bolted
51. Ancient port of Lebanon
54. The Peacock network

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is an excellent day for business and commerce. Whatever you do will give you a profitable result in the future. (What works best is to finish an old deal.)

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Fair Venus is in your sign now, dancing with lucky moneybags Jupiter. This means today is a very fortunate day for you. You will be more successful if you wrap up old business.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Solitude in beautiful surroundings will please you today. In fact, some of you might dabble in a secret love affair. (Woo, woo!)

Cancer June 22 - July 23
This is a popular day! Rally your troops and set them marching, because others will respond to your encouragement and direction.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You make a fabulous impression on bosses and VIPs today. In fact, a flirtatious moment might occur — who knows? A conversation might lead to boosting your income in the future.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Travel for pleasure totally appeals today. Fortunately, opportunities to do so abound. Lucky you!

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Gifts, goodies and favors from others will come your way today. Do not hesitate to accept them. Just say, "Thank you!"

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Relations with others are warm and friendly today. It's a particularly good day to deal with members of the general public. Seek out fun excursions with others.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
It's easy for you to get a raise or praise from others at work today, because people are impressed by you now. (Make the most of this while you have this advantage.)

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
This is an excellent day to set off on vacation. At the least, book some time for yourself doing what you enjoy most. The arts, sports events and playful times with children are favoured (as is romance).

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is the perfect day to wrap up an old real-estate deal, especially something that has been hanging on. It's also a good day to entertain at home or buy something beautiful.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Relations with others are friendly today, because you are in an optimistic frame of mind. Believe in your power to attract what you need to you.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

	5	4	3		8	1	7	
8								2
7								9
2				7				8
			6	3	4			
6				9				7
1								4
3								5
	6	9	1		7	2	8	

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YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

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3	2	9	5	4	1	8	7	6
5	8	7	3	2	6	4	9	1
1	4	6	7	9	8	2	5	3
2	3	4	8	5	7	1	6	9
9	7	1	6	3	4	5	8	2
8	6	5	9	1	2	3	4	7
4	9	3	1	7	5	6	2	8
6	1	2	4	8	9	7	3	5
7	5	8	2	6	3	9	1	4

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